GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:618
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
MATERNAL DEATHS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India accounts for 30 per cent of all maternal deaths in the world;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation; and

(c) the number of maternal deaths reported in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) The World Health Organisation in 1999 estimated that 600,000 women die every year globally as a result of complications arising from pregnancy and child birth. As per estimates of the maternal mortality rate provided by the Sample Registration System-1998, it is estimated that about 1.1 lakh women die every year in India due to maternal causes.

(b) Maternal health is an integral part of the Reproductive and Child Health Progarmme which aims at bringing down the maternal mortality and morbidity. Under this programme various interventions focussed on reducing maternal deaths are being implemented. These are essential obstetric care: Emergency Obstetric Care; provision for referral transport for pregnant women with complication of pregnancy through panchayats; provision of drugs and equipment at first referral units; provision of contractual staff like Additonal Health Workers, staff nurses, doctors and anesthetist. Funds are also being provided for schemes like 24 hours delivery services at selected primary health centres and community health centres; training of dais in 142 districts with safe delivery rate of less then 30 per cent and holding of health camps in 102 districts with adverse health indicators.

(c) State-wise data on number of maternal deaths are not available. However, the maternal mortality rates as estimated for major states by the Registrar General of India for the year 1997 and 1998 is given in the annexure.

Annexure referred to the para (C) of the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 618

Maternal Mortality Rate India and Bigger States

Major state	MMH (1997)	MMR (1998)
India	408	407
Andhra Pradesh	154	159
Assam	401	409
Bihar	451	452
Gujarat	29	28
Haryana	105	103
Karnataka	195	195
Kerala	195	198
Madhya Pradesh	498	498
Maharashtra	135	135
Orissa	361	367
Punjab	196	199
Rajasthan	677	670
Tamil Nadu	76	79
Uttar Pradesh	707	707
West Bengal	264	266

Source : RGI, SRS, 1997, 1998